

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )

Plaintiff, )

v. )

KIM ANH T. HOANG, )

Defendant. )

CASE NO. CR06-319JLR

DETENTION ORDER

Offense charged:

Count II: Conspiracy to Engage in Money Laundering, in violation of Title 18,  
U.S.C., Section 1956(h).

Date of Detention Hearings: September 28, 2006 and September 29, 2006.

The Court, having conducted a contested detention hearing pursuant to Title 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f), and based upon the factual findings and statement of reasons for detention hereafter set forth, finds that no condition or combination of conditions which the defendant can meet will reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as required and the safety of any other person and the community. The Government was represented by Ye-Ting Woo. The defendant was represented by Stewart Riley.

The Government moves for detention, asserting that the defendant poses a serious risk of flight given her access to drug proceeds. She has a close relationship to co-defendant and conspiracy leader Quoc Le. The Government cites a number of recorded conversations with co-defendant Quoc Le regarding drug proceeds and the holding of those proceeds. According to the Government's record, this defendant reports no legitimate source of income, yet her assets and possession of cash far exceed Quoc Le's reported income, upon whom she appears to be financially dependent. This is corroborated by the seizure of

1 \$30,000 dollars U.S. currency found in their shared residence. The Government contends  
2 that the defendant has recently traveled to Vietnam twice, which heightens concern of flight.  
3 Her brother, another co-defendant, Toan Chua Hoang, has already fled to Vietnam after  
4 learning of another Vietnamese drug distribution investigation by the DEA. The  
5 Government urged that his flight appears to have been for the purpose avoiding prosecution.

6 The defendant argues for release, contending that she is a U.S. Citizen with no  
7 criminal record and strong ties to this district, referencing her 7-year-old daughter. The  
8 defendant counters that she is employed at a hair salon, and her residence was purchased  
9 with a zero-down option, suggesting that illegitimate funds were not used for its purchase.  
10 Additionally, the defendant proffers that she traveled to Vietnam twice because of a family  
11 medical emergency.

#### 12 FINDINGS OF FACT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DETENTION

- 13 (1) The instant offense involves the laundering of large sums of cash obtained  
14 as drug proceeds from a conspiracy drug distribution of marijuana  
15 originating in Canada and smuggled to Washington for transport to other  
16 states. The investigation of locations of other large sums of cash is  
17 ongoing, with multiple requests for search warrants of other properties.
- 18 (2) Given the defendant's close personal relationship to the leader of this  
19 distribution organization, the Court has grave concerns that she has access  
20 to these drug proceeds from the multi-state drug distribution network,  
21 some of whose members are as yet unknown. Her brother having already  
22 fled only underscores the Court's concerns. The defendant's recent travel  
23 to Vietnam for family matters shows her continued strong overseas ties.
- 24 (3) The defendant's part-time employment income is inconsistent with the  
25 amount of known assets and funds belonging to the defendant, heightening  
26 the Court's concern of continued financial reliance on proceeds from

1 illegal activity.

- 2 (4) Due to the nature and seriousness of the crime alleged, release of the  
3 defendant would pose a risk to the community.

4 Thus, there is no condition or combination of conditions that would reasonably assure  
5 future court appearances.

6 **It is therefore ORDERED:**

- 7 (1) Defendant shall be detained pending trial and committed to the custody of  
8 the Attorney General for confinement in a correctional facility separate, to  
9 the extent practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences, or being  
10 held in custody pending appeal;  
11 (2) Defendant shall be afforded reasonable opportunity for private  
12 consultation with counsel;  
13 (3) On order of a court of the United States or on request of an attorney for the  
14 Government, the person in charge of the correctional facility in which  
15 Defendant is confined shall deliver the defendant to a United States  
16 Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court  
17 proceeding; and  
18 (4) The clerk shall direct copies of this order to counsel for the United States,  
19 to counsel for the defendant, to the United States Marshal, and to the  
20 United States Pretrial Services Officer.

21 DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2006.

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25 Monica J. Benton  
26 U.S. Magistrate Judge